(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO' 1995) does not make any distinction between Life Saving drugs and other drugs. In accordance with the provisions of DPCO'1995, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes/revises prices of the drugs listed in the First Schedule of DPCO 1995 and formulations based thereon. In case, there is any violation of the approved/notified price of a Scheduled formulation, action is taken under the provisions of the DPCO' 1995. Moreover, the Drugs Policies, as announced from time to time, are directed towards ensuring abundant availability of quality drugs at reasonable prices.

(c) and (d) At present, only two central public sector undertakings *viz.*, Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) and Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL) are engaged in the production of drugs. The performance of these two undertakings are reviewed by the Department on quarterly basis.

Availability of complex fertilizer

884. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the availability of complex fertilizer has affected the cultivation during the Khariff season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was a problem in the import and availability of phosphoric acid;

(d) if so, the circumstances and other details arising thereof; and

(e) what long term steps are being taken to overcome recurrence of this problem?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) M/s Madras Fertilizers Limited, M/s The Fertilisers & Chemicals Travancore Limited, M/s Tata Chemicals Limited and M/s Godavari Fertilisers & Chemicals Limited reported hindrance in the supply of phosphoric acid by international suppliers due to constraints in availability in the international market.

(d) The country is almost totally dependent on the imports of raw mateials/intermediates for phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. The import of phosphoric acid is decanalised. Based on the price negotiated by the phosphoric acid importers, the Government of India decides the price of phosphoric acid for working out per tonne concession on phosphatic and complex fertilizers. Some manufacturing units have suffered production losses of phosphatic fertilizers because of delay in the arrivals of phosphoric acid imports. The actual production of phosphate in the country from 1st April to 30th November, 2004 was 16.51 lakh MT as against the target of 21.32 lakh MT.

(e) In order to overcome the recurrence of this problem, the Government is encouraging establishment of more Joint Venture Companies for manufacturing phosphoric acid.

Chemicals Wastage of Union Carbide

885. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the dangerous chemical wastage of Union Carbide is still a curse for local masses and it should be removed as soon as possible;

(b) what action has been taken to ensure the destruction of the waste;

(c) whether Government plan to get help from other developed countries to get rid of it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?